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SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

JULY, 1947



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JULY, 1947

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DAVID R. BROWER, *Editor*HARRIET T. PARSONS, *Associate Editor*

Ansel Adams, Barbara Bedayn, Arthur H. Blake, Joan Clark, August Frugé, Weldon F. Heald, Charlotte Mauk, Marion Parsons, Dorothy Sandstrom, Vivian Schagen, Blanche Stallings, Stella Swenson.

Editor's Miscellany

The Cover. Triple Falls, Cartridge Creek. By Joseph N. Le Conte. Regarding his first view of this fall, Professor Le Conte wrote this, which we quote from the June, 1903, *Bulletin*. "For the first two and a half miles the traveling was not dangerous or even difficult, but it was exceedingly steep, and rough, and disagreeable, with considerable brush to get through, and with loose footing. Above this the canyon opened out into a gravelly flat, at the head of which were cliffs across the gorge in singularly forbidding array. Over these plunged one of the most magnificent falls I have seen outside the Yosemite itself. Triple Fall is formed by two almost equal branches of Cartridge

Creek. That to the left or north is slightly the larger and may be considered the main branch of the stream. These approach within a few feet of one another and fall side by side into the same pool. The combined waters immediately make a second leap into the narrow chasm below."

Exhibit. Photographs of the Sierra Nevada by James W. MacBride will be on exhibit in the club rooms during July and August.

Olympic National Park. Have you written to your congressmen about Olympic National Park? If not, you should remind yourself of what concerted action was able to accomplish in the San Geronio case and you should wait no longer. Turn to the last page of the June Sierra Club *Bulletin* and find the names of the members representing your region on the public lands committee of the House and the Senate. Write to them and to your own senator and representative.

Lost Arrow. The June 28 *Saturday Evening Post* carried Fritz Lippmann's "We Climbed the Impossible Peak," an account of the final successful attempt on the Lost Arrow by Jack Arnold, Ax Nelson, Robin Hansen, and Fritz. Earlier attempts are also described in the article, particularly the remarkable solo try of John Salathé.

Fortune. The June *Fortune* presents a splendid 16-page color portfolio on national parks of the West. Several painters have contributed their impressions of familiar scenes. The photographs, by Ansel Adams, are credited by *Time* with winning out over the paintings every time. The text and legends by Bernard DeVoto, some of whose writings on conservation are reprinted in the current annual magazine, is one of the finest pieces of prose in simultaneous definition and defense of national parks.

—A.F.

Lumbering in National Parks?

(Reprinted from *Sierra Club Bulletin*, June 1946)

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug recently denied a report that the National Park Service had agreed on a new policy which would permit the cutting of timber on park lands. In a letter to the editor of the *West Coast Lumberman*, who had requested a statement, Secretary Krug said:

"The National policy of maintaining national-park forests inviolate, established by law, has been strengthened by general public acceptance of it over the long period since the Congress began giving park status to the nationally significant scenic areas of this country. Only in the parks will Americans of the present and the future be assured of an opportunity to see and savor the majesty and the beauty of the natural forest and to observe the natural processes which produce and affect the forest community."

Stating that the time might conceivably come when the necessities of the nation would be so urgent as to justify some harvesting of national park timber, the Secretary asserted that no present or immediately foreseeable contingency supports the pressure for such action.

Referring specifically to suggestions that the cutting of virgin forests in Olympic Na-

tional Park, in Washington, would be justified by the need of lumber for the construction of homes for veterans, the Secretary said that any existent shortage of lumber is not due to any shortage of standing timber on nonpark lands, but rather to a variety of other causes.

Secretary Krug called attention to an article which appeared in the *Lumberman* (January, 1946) as proof of the present wealth of commercial saw timber in Washington and Oregon. Stating that this amounted to more than 438 billion board feet, the author, E. H. McDaniels, declared that this supply "would, for example, supply materials to build 73 million five-room houses, without any changes in utilization or logging methods."

[Source of this material is the Department of Interior Information Service. It is presented to give members an idea of the conservation policy of the new Secretary of the Interior, and to amplify, once more, this argument: when any particular resource of the nation becomes so scarce as to be found only in national parks, then it is high time to find a substitute, rather than to deplete or extinguish it in the parks.—D.R.B.]

Text of San Geronio Announcement

Washington, June 10, 1947. The San Geronio primitive area in the San Bernardino National Forest of southern California remains practically unchanged as a result of a decision announced today by Lyle F. Watts, chief of the Forest Service in the U.S. De-

partment of Agriculture, on a proposal that the boundaries of the area be modified to permit the installation of skiing facilities.

Following intensive study of the proposal, Mr. Watts said the Forest Service had come to the conclusion that the San Geronio

primitive area has higher public value as a wilderness and a watershed than as a downhill skiing area.

The decision assumes national significance because opening of the San Gorgonio wilderness area might possibly have been cited later as a precedent for like action on other primitive areas in national forests and because months-long agitation for and against opening the California area to skiing installations aroused a number of country-wide organizations.

Mr. Watts also announced that as a result of re-study of the San Gorgonio area it had been decided to eliminate from it some 1,400 acres north of Poopout Hill in Barton Flats which already includes several structures and roads usable for automobiles and therefore is no longer suitable for primitive classification. Elimination of this acreage from primitive status, he explained, will permit a road to be built to the top of the hill and make it readily accessible for wilderness skiing and "ski touring" without affecting the rest of the wilderness area.

The San Gorgonio ruling, according to Mr. Watts, was made on the basis of testimony presented at a public hearing held last February 19 and 20 in San Bernardino, California, several thousand letters received by the Forest Service from interested individuals and groups, and a careful appraisal of the problem by forest officers.

"I fully appreciate the great public demand and need for additional downhill skiing areas in southern California and I recognize skiing as an appropriate form of forest recreation that should be encouraged by the Forest Service," Mr. Watts said. "I also recognize that San Gorgonio is an area well suited for a downhill skiing development. At the same time, were the area opened as proposed the loss of other public values such

as wilderness skiing, ski touring, summer wilderness use, organized camping, and watershed values combined, would be greater than the public gain through development for downhill skiing."

Mr. Watts pointed out that the Forest Service is cooperating fully with the skiers of southern California and elsewhere to develop more national forest ski areas which facilities he said were needed to meet an increasing demand. Last year, he recalled, the 250 winter sports areas in National Forests, which embrace some 50,000 acres, were used by 1,250,000 skiers.

Expressing the hope that today's decision would not disturb "the splendid cooperation which has existed between skiers, their local associations and the National Ski Association and the Forest Service, as well as between skiers and wilderness groups," the chief forester gave assurance that the encouragement the Forest Service has always given winter sports in National Forests would be continued. He paid tribute to the way wilderness people and skiers have worked for the accomplishment of common aims and objectives in the past. Calling ski touring and wilderness skiing appropriate forms of wilderness travel, the chief forester said he thought it quite possible that this form of use may soon rival summer use of wilderness areas in number of participants.

Mr. Watts said that an important consideration in the San Gorgonio decision was the national aspect of the wilderness area. He foresaw, he added, a rising demand for wilderness recreation "as the influence of urban living induces more and more persons to seek the serenity and inspiration of wilderness areas." Opportunities for establishment of new wilderness areas are limited, he said, and loss of present areas of this description might well prove to be irreparable.

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"The White Tower"

According to a recent RKO release, Edward Dmytryk, back in Hollywood after directing in England, already is marshalling his forces for a second photographic attack on Europe.

This time the project will embody one of the mightiest location treks in Hollywood's history. For his initial effort as both producer and director, Dmytryk is moving an entire RKO Radio production unit and a shipload of equipment to Switzerland where he will film *The White Tower*. He has been in Switzerland, where he scouted the Alps for a suitable location. The results of his hunt were a portfolio full of maps and photographs, and an imagination eager to see things under way.

"The going would not be easy," Dmytryk admitted in Hollywood. "Our company would have to work at extremely high altitudes and under frequently hazardous conditions." As a result, he decided to stage a full dress rehearsal before attempting his Alpine push, and planned a two weeks' trip into the High Sierra for tests of photographic and technical equipment at altitudes exceeding 10,000 feet.

Winter was chosen for this operation, since tests were to be based on subzero tempera-

tures in order to check the effect of freezing and light on color film, and to test portable tents, heaters, duralumin scaffoldings, and other equipment necessary to the success of his Alpine expedition.

A private pilot himself, Dmytryk is exploring the use of helicopters to transport personnel and equipment among the Alps when actual production commences. If they prove serviceable, he will set a revolutionary precedent by using them in place of human carriers. A full complement of studio manpower totaling nearly 100 must be transported to the Alps. Plans call for headquarters at Adelboden and Chamonix. So extensive are the operations surrounding this project that Dmytryk will have not one but two pictures to guide when filming starts. "We're going to have the big trek photographed for release as a documentary short subject," he says. "Special cameramen will record the company's progress from its embarkation in New York to final production preparations in Switzerland. Our every move will be chronicled, including all the hazards we expect to encounter on glaciers and among dangerous Alpine recesses." They were slated to start for Europe in May.

Clair Tappaan Lodge

Because of the steady increase in the summer patronage at Clair Tappaan Lodge on Donner Summit, a full time cook is being employed from July 1 to September 15.

As the Lodge has never been filled to capacity during the summer, reservations are unnecessary before December. A card to the manager, advising him of the date of your arrival, is helpful but not required. There is always plenty of food in the refrigerator.

Accommodations include three meals a day, dormitories for men and women, and

cubicles of two bunks each for married couples. Mattresses are furnished but no bedding. Members and guests must bring their own sleeping bags or blankets.

Rates for the summer season are as follows:

DAILY RATE

Members, \$2.00; guests, \$2.50; children under 7, \$1.00; children under 1, no charge.

MEALS AND LODGING

Breakfast, 55c; lunch, 45c; dinner, 75c; lodging (members), 25c, (guests), 75c.

Treasurer's Report for the Year Ended December 31, 1946

To the Directors of the Sierra Club:

The following report on the finances of the Sierra Club for the year ended December 31, 1946 is respectfully submitted.

WALTER L. HUBER, *Treasurer*

CHANGES IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1946

Current Funds	DECEMBER	YEAR 1946		DECEMBER
	31, 1945	RECEIVED	DISBURSED	31, 1946
General	\$ 9,282.43	25,741.52	25,494.89	9,529.06
Lodge Current	834.14	2,159.77	1,777.15	1,216.76
Alfred P. Redington	291.61	.....	.....	291.61
John P. Dexter	500.00	.....	.....	500.00
Land Purchase	2,000.00	.....	2,000.00	.....
Walter Mosauer	604.50	.....	.....	604.50
Total Current	13,512.68	27,901.29	29,272.04	12,141.93
Permanent Funds				
Endowment	23,595.26	1,936.46	.....	25,531.72
Stephen T. Mather	10,000.00	.....	.....	10,000.00
Memorial Lodge	1,000.00	.....	.....	1,000.00
Aurelia S. Harwood	5,000.00	.....	.....	5,000.00
Robert S. Gillett	1,000.00	.....	.....	1,000.00
Total Permanent	40,595.26	1,936.46	.....	42,531.72
Total Funds	\$54,107.94	29,837.75	29,272.04	54,673.65

CHANGES IN CASH AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1946

Current Funds	DECEMBER	YEAR 1946		DECEMBER
	31, 1945	ADDITIONS	REDUCTIONS	31, 1946
Cash	\$12,909.28	27,901.29	29,272.04	11,538.53
United States Treasury Bonds (redemption value at acquisition)	603.40	.....	.....	603.40
Total Current	13,512.68	27,901.29	29,272.04	12,141.93
Permanent Funds				
Cash	2,004.37	2,966.46	2,375.00	2,595.83
United States Treasury Bonds (Cost)	22,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	22,000.00
Stocks of Corporations (Cost)	16,590.89	2,375.00	1,030.00	17,935.89
Total Permanent	40,595.26	10,341.46	8,405.00	42,531.72
Total Funds	\$54,107.94	38,242.75	37,677.04	54,673.65

DETAILS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1946

GENERAL FUND			
<i>Receipts</i>			
Dues—Regular members		\$12,528.00	
Junior and other reduced rate members		1,099.00	
New members		8,813.00	
For prior years		112.00	
For future years		77.00	22,629.00
Interest and dividends from Endowment Fund			1,666.41
Bank interest			103.85
Publication sales			1,342.26
Total Received			\$25,741.52
<i>Disbursements</i>			
General Administration			
Rent—San Francisco	\$ 1,410.00		
Los Angeles	480.00		
Salaries	5,112.60		
Elections and Directors' meetings	654.82		
Office expenses	1,483.39		9,140.81

1946

December 31,

Treasurer

Sierra Club Bulletin		
Magazine number (less advertising, \$50)	4,758.65	
Bimonthly numbers (five)	2,005.18	
Reprints	272.34	7,036.17
Chapters		
Southern California	1,505.25	
San Francisco Bay	1,572.33	
Loma Prieta	225.75	
Mother Lode	120.25	
Riverside	58.75	3,482.33
Lodge Current Fund		1,500.00
Land purchase		49.00
Contributions		
Save-the-Redwoods League	100.00	
High Sierra Packers Association	50.00	
California Conservation Council	10.00	160.00
Le Conte's Ramblings and Starr Guide Publication		4,126.58
Total Disbursed		\$25,494.89

LODGE CURRENT FUND

Receipts

Interest from Memorial Lodge, Harwood, and Gillett Funds . . . \$	146.43	
Gain from sale of bonds	94.83	
Parsons Lodge receipts	172.95	
Mount Shasta	245.56	
General Fund	1,500.00	
Total Received		\$ 1,219.77

Disbursements

Le Conte Memorial Lodge \$	352.49	
Parsons Memorial Lodge	279.87	
Mount Shasta	502.31	
Keller Peak and San Antonio Ski Huts	640.88	
Muir Hut	1.60	
Total Disbursed		\$ 1,777.15

ENDOWMENT FUND

Receipts

Twenty-one life memberships \$	1,575.00	
Gain from sale of 20 shares corporation stock	223.60	
Gain from exchange of bonds	137.86	
		\$ 1,936.46

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the statements of changes in funds and changes in cash and investments of the Sierra Club for the year ended December 31, 1946. In connection therewith I examined or tested accounting records and other supporting evidence, by methods and to the extent I deemed appropriate.

In my opinion the foregoing statements present fairly the recorded receipts and disbursements and the changes in cash and investments for the year ended December 31, 1946, excluding the operating funds of the Clair Tappaan Lodge, Outings, and Chapters.

CLIFFORD V. HEIMBUCHER, *Certified Public Accountant.*

22,629.00
1,666.41
103.85
1,342.26
\$25,741.52

9,140.81



IN CLOUD CANYON, By Cedric Wright

